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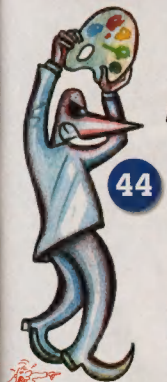
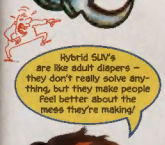
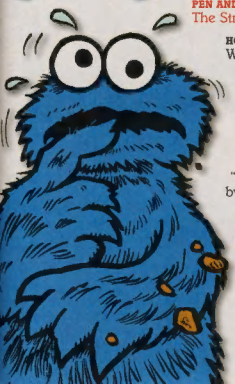



Hybrid SUV's are like adult diapers — they don't really solve anything, but they make people feel better about the mess they're making!



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COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

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SCHOOL OF HARD MOCKS

I got rejected yesterday from Stanford University, and it's your fault. I have perfect grades, great standardized test scores, and credentials through the roof. I was shocked that I was not accepted. Then I remembered that in my application I listed MAD magazine as a publication that I enjoy. I'm positive that mistake is the reason I didn't get in. Thanks for ruining my future.

Liz Clark, Pittsburgh, PA

Come to the Clark Side — We felt so bad about your rejection that we called up the admissions office at Stanford to find out what went wrong. You'll be happy to know that it had nothing to do with MAD. They simply felt that you were under-qualified and completely unexceptional. Turns out they never even read the part about what magazines you read because they stopped looking at your application almost immediately! What a relief for us! Best of luck getting into a trade school! —Ed.

THE BIG EASEL

I started reading MAD magazine back in the mid-sixties and after reading a recent issue, I discovered that my taste in humor has obviously not matured in the past 40 years. As an amateur artist I decided to try my hand at sculpting, and since MAD had such a strong influence on me in my formative years, I thought it only fitting to make my first sculpture of the MAD mascot, Alfred E. Neuman. I'm sending you a hand-painted copy in the hopes that it will adorn the walls of your headquarters and serve as an inspiration to the MAD personnel for generations to come, or you can just use it as a doorstop.

Chris DeMattia, Croton on Hudson, NY

Hit or Chris — Doorstop it is! If we could make a suggestion, the next time you try your hand at sculpting, try using BOTH hands instead! —Ed.

CHRIS AND HIS ALFRED HEAD

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

My dad got my family and I tickets and meet-and-greets to the *American Idol* tour in Atlantic City. I thought it would be perfect to ask the American Idol for a MAD Celebrity Snap. He was a bit confused — I don't think he knew what exactly I was getting the picture for. But he was very nice about it. MAD is the best there is and I am amazed how you've made fresh material for over 50 years.

Sam Share-Raab, Newtown, PA

Enter Sam-man — We know exactly how *American Idol* winner David Cook feels. We, too, are a bit confused — by his success! But we're being very nice about it. We're sure his career will skyrocket to the same level as Ruben Studdard! —Ed.

A CONFUSED DAVID COOK

THE FIGHTER SIDE OF...

Please stop publishing rewritten, colored editions of "The Lighter Side." You are destroying the comedy of Dave Berg and many childhood memories I have of laughing at the strip. Your new versions are not funny and are catering to the idiots that are America's youth today. Let our memories of Dave and his comic genius not be ruined by you and your gang of idiots.

Rob Scibetti, Staten Island, NY

Scibetti and Meatballs — Did you grow up on Staten Island? If so, we would think you'd want to destroy as many childhood memories as possible! And don't forget to wave to the Fresh Kills Dump as you drive by it! —Ed.

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MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEWS

It's time for an exciting and astonishing collection of MAD's 2-Question Interviews, in which some of today's hottest stars and biggest newsmakers sit down for probing and in-depth chats!

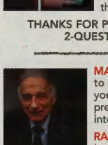
MAD QUESTION ONE: Would you mind two idiotic questions from MAD?

BRIAN WILLIAMS: Oh! Spy vs. Spy and all that? Long time reader, first time caller.

MAD QUESTION TWO: Thanks! Now that the interview is over, how do you think it went?

BRIAN WILLIAMS: Very well, though it dragged in the middle.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



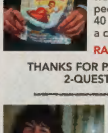
MAD QUESTION ONE: Sorry to interrupt, Mr. Nader, but do you have a moment between presidential campaigns for a brief interview with MAD magazine?

RALPH NADER: What, me worry? I was in MAD magazine in 1965.

MAD QUESTION TWO: Well, we like to report on important people such as yourself every 40 to 50 years, so may we ask a couple of questions?

RALPH NADER: All right.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



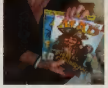
MAD QUESTION ONE: For journalistic accuracy, can you please tell us the correct pronunciation of your first name?

CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR: Kris-tea-awn.

MAD QUESTION TWO: And your last name?

CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR: Ah-mon-poor.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



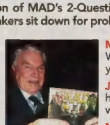
MAD QUESTION ONE: Have you heard the one where Yao Ming, Michael Phelps and George Bush walk into a bar?

BOB COSTAS: I have not. But I have a feeling I'm about to.

MAD QUESTION TWO: Too bad. We were hoping you could tell us. Maybe you know the one where they're stuck on a deserted island?

BOB COSTAS: Hahahaha. No, but that sounds like a good one, too.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



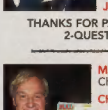
MAD QUESTION ONE: What's the #1 question that your fans ask you the most?

JOHN MADDEN: That would have to be, "Who's going to win the Superbowl?"

MAD QUESTION ONE: Oh. Do you know a little something about football?

JOHN MADDEN: [Silence.] Yes.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



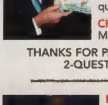
MAD QUESTION ONE: Are you Chris Matthews of *Hardball*?

CHRIS MATTHEWS: Yes.

MAD QUESTION TWO: Would you indulge us by answering a couple of softball questions for MAD magazine?

CHRIS MATTHEWS: MAD? Sure.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



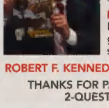
MAD QUESTION ONE: Are you familiar with MAD?

ROBERT F. KENNEDY Jr.: Yes. It was my favorite magazine growing up.

MAD QUESTION TWO: Excellent! Then how about giving us a minute for two stupid questions?

ROBERT F. KENNEDY Jr.: No! Hahaha!

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



MAD QUESTION ONE: You're retired from the New York Giants now, aren't you?

TIKI BARBER: That is correct.

MAD QUESTION TWO: Good. So you're all flabby now and can't beat us to a pulp for asking two dumb questions?

TIKI BARBER: Hahaha. I'm still in pretty good shape, but I prefer to kill people with kindness these days. I smile and disarm them. Speaking of which... [smiles ear to ear]...it's a pleasure to meet you.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!

OUR GUARANTEE:
MAD'S 2-QUESTION INTERVIEWS ARE GENUINE AND PRESENTED VERBATIM!

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IN CLOD WE TRUST

Today at church I accidentally did something horrible! After church choir rehearsal, I went to the sanctuary to dip my hand in the baptismal and do the Father/Son/Holy Ghost thing my minister talks about. I set my MAD down, thinking that anything like MAD should never go in a sanctuary. Then, I dipped my hand in the Holy Water and did the Father/Son/Holy Ghost thing. While I was walking out of the sanctuary, my hand wasn't entirely dry. I picked up my MAD and I accidentally got Holy Water on it. Therefore making MAD holy! I don't know how I made such a blasphemy holy, but I do know that the Lord does work in strange ways.

Lee Cleaveland, Troy, MI

General Lee — It's a miracle! Specifically, that you didn't get third-degree burns from MAD bursting into flames after the Holy Water touched it! Can we get a Hallelujah?! —Ed.

REVENGE OF THE WORDS

My English teacher recently assigned us an extra credit assignment. She gave us the choice between writing a letter to a magazine (and getting it published), or finding 10 vocabulary words in our reading books. Being an avid MAD reader, I thought it was an obvious choice. I figured that I could kill two birds with one stone; get my letter published in MAD and find 10 vocabulary words in my reading book (MAD magazine). So, here are the words…abhor, benevolent, capricious, despicable, effrontery, fallacy, gregarious, histrionics, iconoclast and jocular. Who knows what they mean? And thanks for helping me rack up the points in English.

Daniel Doft, San Diego, CA

Doft-Core Pornography — Happy to help! Oddly enough, every one of those words could be used to describe MAD writer Barry Liebmann. So histrionic! —Ed.

READER ALERT

Those lucky enough to have their missives printed on this month's Letters Page will receive a pair of Stewie slippers courtesy of our friends at Twentieth Century Fox Licensing and Merchandising. For more information please visit www.foxshop.com. For those of you who weren't so lucky, don't try to destroy the world, they're on sale now!

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#3 In A Series

An important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development,

JEFFREY LOZENGE

In troubling times such as ours — and by "ours" I mean yours and mine, not someone else's, which would be their troubling times, not ours — people — and by "people" I mean us, not those others who aren't us but them — well, I'm sure you know what I'm getting at.

MAD *— and by "MAD" I mean* MAD *— is a magazine whose time* is *and continues to* be. *It defines who we are and where we've been and where we are hoping to go if we can only find the money and get some time off. No reasonable person would argue with that.*

And so it's with that in mind — and by "that" I mean this, which is what I am about to say: I don't wear a green suit with a question mark because I look attractive in it. I wear it it because I must. A man must do what a man must do. And so must a woman. We are all one in nature's garden.

Given all this, subscribing to MAD *makes perfect sense. To you and me. Us.*

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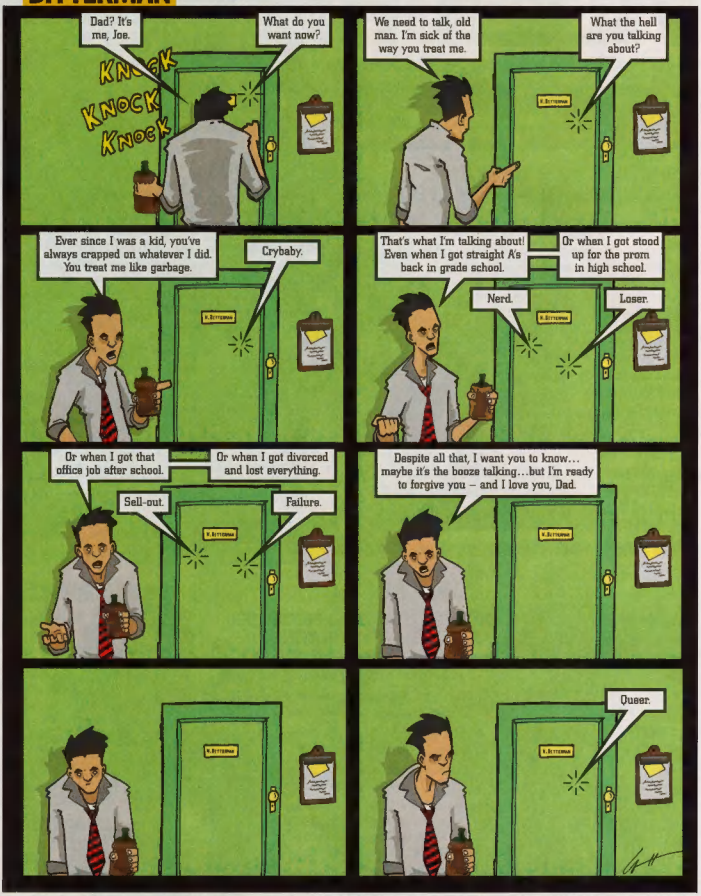
Dad? It's me, Joe.
What do you want now?
KNOCK
KNOCK
Knock
We need to talk, old man. I'm sick of the way you treat me.
What the hell are you talking about?
Ever since I was a kid, you've always crapped on whatever I did. You treat me like garbage.
Crybaby.
That's what I'm talking about! Even when I got straight A's back in grade school.
Or when I got stood up for the prom in high school.
Nerd.
Loser.
Or when I got that office job after school.
Or when I got divorced and lost everything.
Sell-out.
Failure.
Despite all that, I want you to know... maybe it's the booze talking...but I'm ready to forgive you – and I love you, Dad.
Queer.

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Desmond Devlin Evan Dorkin & Sarah Dyer Drew Friedman Garth Gerhart Marc Hempel
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OBSERVATION PRECK DEPT.

WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Can you find the 9 idiotic changes we've made to this magazine cover?

OUR VERSION OF "MOONRAKER"
A SLAP AT "ROCKY II"
SERGIO ARAGONES
AL JAFFEE
DON MARTIN
...AND THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS ARE ALL IN THIS ISSUE OF...
No. 213 March '80
MAD
OUR PRICE 75¢ CHEAP

OUR VERSION OF "MOONRAKER"
A SLAP AT "ROCKY III"
SERGIO ARAGONES
AL JAFFEE
DON MARTIN
...AND THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS ARE ALL IN THIS ISSUE OF...
No. 213 March '80
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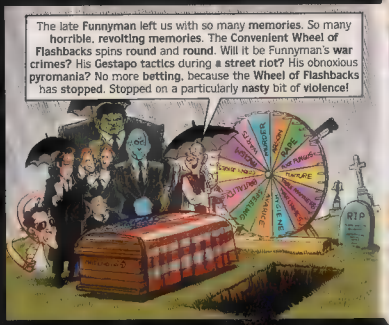
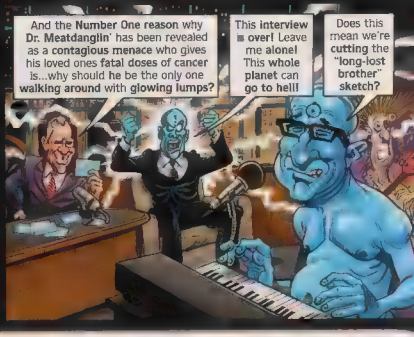
1) "Rocky II" is now "Rocky III." 2) The MAD logo is upside-down, too!! 3) The wheels on Alfred's skate changed colors. 4) The skater on Alfred's left is gone. 5) The female skater is now wearing blue tights. 6) The angry skater has a purple stripe on his sweater. 7) Alfred's left hand is reversed. 8) Alfred has an extra face on his left skate. 9) There's an "M" on Alfred's left skate.

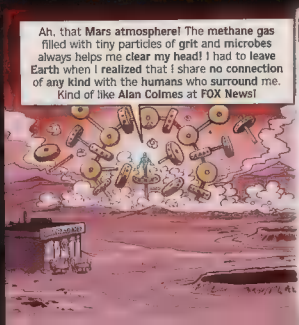
Hurm. So. Edward Branflake was the Funnyman! Here's his super-suit. Always thought he'd look better in floral patterns, though. Something in a lilac knit! Hold it. Stop. Focus.
But who would kill Funnyman? He had no enemies. Except many within the government! And overseas! And everyone who ever knew him! Hurm. Going to need bigger notebook!
Found your beans, Daniel! Six cans. Didn't think you'd mind. Also, left a little present in microwave. Just don't trust toilets!
I still can't believe the Funnyman's dead! I can remember back when we both met him for the first time!
Yes, you and me! Together inside the flying Owl-Ship. Until you ended our partnership! Always wondered why.
It had a lot to do with sharing a cramped, airtight space with someone who likes eating beans!
MUNCH
SLURP
SMACK
HURM
A war with the Soviets could imperil our planet! Worse, it could break all my mirrors! As The World's Smartest Man™, my analysis shows that a full-scale attack would severely damage Bleidt Industries' holdings, cause a dip in Bleidt share trading, slow production of my Amoral Bleidt line of action toys and suppositories, and erode our 4Q profit margin!
Wouldn't a war also kill 50 million people in a day?
That too! I have them listed under "Miscellaneous"!
It was unnecessary to warn me about Funnyman's murder, Wackjob. I can see the past, present and future simultaneously. Also, right after it happened, I got Twittered!
Your visit is logically pointless! I think you really sneaked in just to get a free peek at the Botchmen's resident sex symbol!
Okay, I did. But who's looking at YOU? RrrRRROW! The bigger and bluer, the better!
Jon, what's happened to the two of us? We used to be passionate about each other! But now you spend all your time on science experiments! Like the endless study you've been doing on the recalibration of thermal entropy. What does that even mean?
It's simple. You don't make me hot anymore!
I'll have a large order of calamari!
Sorry, but there's absolutely no big squid in this movie! And the fan geeks online are still posting furiously about it!
Jon's been so focused on his work! He's inventing an energy source large enough to power a critical plot device for a $150 million film! It's like he doesn't see me as a warm, vibrant, sensuous woman anymore. Anyway, platonic pal, should we order ice cream for dessert?
Oh, yes! Two luscious scoops!

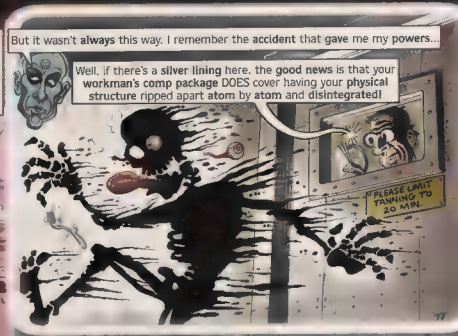

The late Funnyman left us with so many memories. So many horrible, revolting memories. The Convenient Wheel of Flashbacks spins round and round. Will it be Funnyman's war crimes? His Gestapo tactics during a street riot? His obnoxious pyromania? No more betting, because the Wheel of Flashbacks has stopped. Stopped on a particularly nasty bit of violence!
SUICIDE
MURDER
RAPE
CHILD ABUSE
TORTURE
ARSON
DRUGS
ALCOHOL
RIP

You watched my pregnant Vietnamese girlfriend slash my face with a broken bottle after I abandoned her! You watched me shoot her in the gut! You're drifting out of touch with humanity. Doc!
Eh. Whatever. In the end it was still a healthier relationship than Heidi and Spencer's!
IZZY!

I've heard of the Blue Man Group, but this is disgusting! How could you think this would be erotic for me? This relationship is over!


And the Number One reason why Dr. Meatdanglin' has been revealed as a contagious menace who gives his loved ones fatal doses of cancer is...why should he be the only one walking around with glowing lumps?
This interview is over! Leave me alone! This whole planet can go to hell!
Does this mean we're cutting the "long-lost brother" sketch?

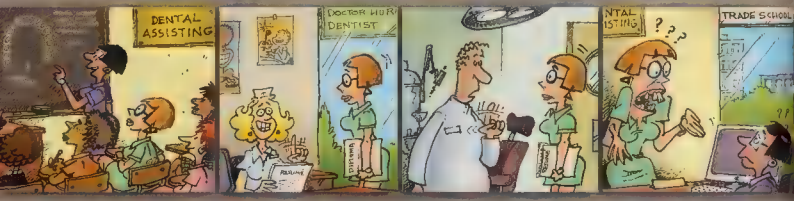

Ah, that Mars atmosphere! The methane gas filled with tiny particles of grit and microbes always helps me clear my head! I had to leave Earth when I realized that I share no connection of any kind with the humans who surround me. Kind of like Alan Colmes at FOX News!


But it wasn't always this way. I remember the accident that gave me my powers...
Well, if there's a silver lining here, the good news is that your workman's comp package DOES cover having your physical structure ripped apart atom by atom and disintegrated!
PLEASE LIMIT TANNING TO 20 MIN.

Excuse me, Mr. Ozcargrouchius. I need you to sign this voucher for a fake assassination attempt!
I'm The Smartest Man In the World™, and a situation like this calls for a meticulous, sensible, intellectual response...YAH! YAH! EAT METAL POLE, BITCH!
We got you, Wackjob! And now that you've been captured, it's my job to evaluate you with a series of psychiatric tests. Will you cooperate?
I see five squirming rats, all devouring one another, while having intercourse! The biggest rat has my father's face burned onto its genitals! In the lower right corner I see Jesus Christ coming to kill them all with a machine gun!
Er...that's very interesting! But the inkblot cards are still inside that envelope! You're looking at a photograph of my wife and daughter!
You're the second superhero I've ever made love with! Although I once went to third base with Mr. Fantastic! But even he wasn't as soft and mushy as you! You're like one of those mega-event comic book series! Nothing actually happens!
I guess I should have told you there's a Crisis in my pants!
It's not that we aren't grateful for the way you two heroes saved our lives. But could you please close your owl-curtains? Nobody wants to see your undulating, middle-aged butt cheeks through the window!
Now that's what I call a reboot! I knew you had it in you! Listen to your huffing and puffing and heavy breathing! Is it my sexy naked body? Or do you have that old "super" feeling again?
Hhhuurk! It's...gack! Neither! It's smoke inhalation!
This is a rescue, Wackjob! So hurry up! We don't have time for this!
Says the person doing all her spin-kicks in super slow motion! One Mississippi. Two Mississippi. Three Mississippi... OUCH!
I've changed my mind about humanity! I now realize that you are a unique thermo-dynamic miracle, in all ways! See how Mars' lesser gravity affects the pooling of your puke? Whenever you sneeze, billions of irreproducible droplets fly out of your one-of-a-kind nose. And don't get me started on the wondrous magic of diarrhea!
Bleeeaghhh! You can see the future. You knew what you'd do! But you brought me to Mars, just to tell me you're bringing me back to Earth! So what was the point of going to Mars at all?
Frequent flyer miles! If I don't use 'em, I lose 'em!
BLORCH!

Information. Now! Give me wrong response, I break your wrist. Helpful response, I only break your finger! And if you get ten right answers, we move on to the exciting lightning round! Squeal? Or no squeal?
He once shattered my collarbone even after I'd told him everything. Just because I didn't phrase my confession in the form of a question!
No! God, no! This shouldn't be happening! We don't deserve this!
No f'n way! An energy explosion? This TOTALLY changes the dramatic deus ex machina from the original graphic novel! If there are message boards in Heaven, they'll soon be hearing the ultimate rant from meeeeee.....
NEW YORK COMIC CONVENTION
Success! I blew up New York, Moscow, Beijing, London, Paris, Tokyo, and Indianapolis! I know that last one makes no sense, but what the hell! I just can't stand Peyton Manning!
Ozcargrouchius, your plan is insane! Why would the omnipresent threat of further random annihilation inspire people to behave BETTER?
Also, Dr. Meatdanglin' is American! What if rest of the world blames the U.S., and unites to attack us?
Why do you think I'm having all of my mail forwarded to my hideout in Antarctica?
The world's smartest man means as much to me as its smartest termite! And in case you're interested, the world's smartest termite is currently a show runner for NBC's Heroes!
What I did was necessary! I destroyed 5% of the world, in order to save the other 95%! Say, would you mind shrinking?
I could probably deal with the staggering consequence of my heinous moral compromise a bit better if I didn't have to stare up at your dangling blue junk!
I'll never remain quiet, so go ahead. Kill me! If I must pay the ultimate price for my principles, so be it! When the world finds out, they will honor my sacrifice. In death, history will vindicate me!
Actually, Wackjob, no one knows that we're here. Your death will go completely unnoticed!
Worst. Martyrdom. Ever.
HURM
HI MOM
Most of the Botchmen are dead! We can kiss a sequel goodbye! But I wonder...why didn't Dr. Meatdanglin' just make exact copies of himself for every country and put an end to war brinksmanship?
And why did Wackjob have to die? He's a sociopath whose word authorities would never believe!
Don't ask me! I'm The Smartest Man In the World™, and I'm STILL trying to figure out why I needed to throw Funnyman out the window!

SCHOOL
ZZZZ
TRADE SCHOOL
ZZZZ
RADUATION
TRADE SCHOOL
ZZZZ
NIGHT GUARD


DENTAL ASSISTING
DOCTOR HUR DENTIST
NTAL ISTING
???
TRADE SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL
PLUMBER
HIGH SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL
20 YEAR REUNION
SCHOOL

A SMALL-BOX EPIDEMIC DEPT. As you know, on February 17, 2009, America will make the transition from analog to digital TV. Maybe other nations will, too — but we don't care about them. The following are common questions that the great unwashed have been asking lately…

DIGITAL TV FAQs

Q: What are my options?
A: You can either stay with your analog TV, which will become a huge paperweight; buy a digital TV; buy a converter box; or stop watching TV altogether. They all work.

Q: Will TV shows be better with digital technology?
A: No, the content will be just as tired, poorly written and clichéd as ever, but it will all look sharper now.

Q: I bought a digital TV years ago, so I don't have to worry about the 2009 transition. In your faces!
A: Well, that's not a question, but point well taken.

Q: After February, can I still use a wire coat hanger as an antenna if reception is bad?
A: Yes, but it must be a digital coat hanger. For a voucher, go to www.digitalTV/hanger.com.

Q: February 2009 seems a really convenient date for the switchover. Is this part of Barack Obama's secret plan to make America a Muslim nation?
A: No, not as far as we know, but if it is, you will be able to see the whole thing play out in stunning, crystal-clear resolution.

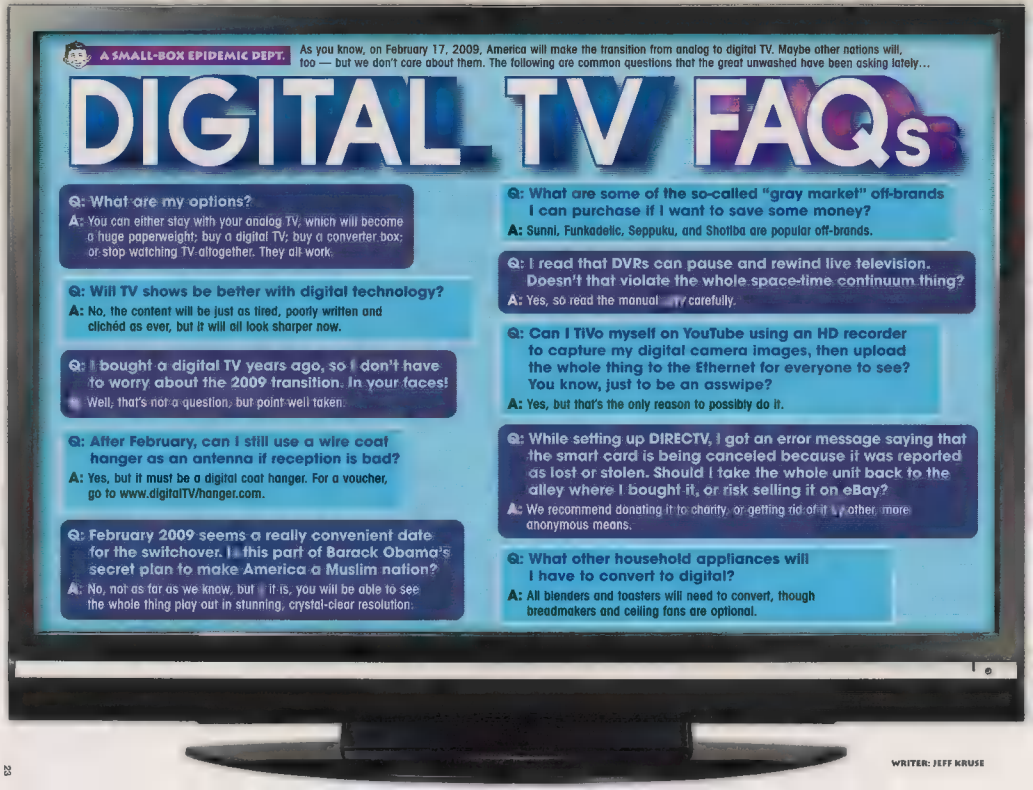
Q: What are some of the so-called "gray market" off-brands I can purchase if I want to save some money?
A: Sunni, Funkadelic, Seppuku, and Shottba are popular off-brands.

Q: I read that DVRs can pause and rewind live television. Doesn't that violate the whole space-time continuum thing?
A: Yes, so read the manual on TV carefully.

Q: Can I TiVo myself on YouTube using an HD recorder to capture my digital camera images, then upload the whole thing to the Ethernet for everyone to see? You know, just to be an asswipe?
A: Yes, but that's the only reason to possibly do it.

Q: While setting up DIRECTV, I got an error message saying that the smart card is being canceled because it was reported as lost or stolen. Should I take the whole unit back to the alley where I bought it, or risk selling it on eBay?
A: We recommend donating it to charity, or getting rid of it by other, more anonymous means.

Q: What other household appliances will I have to convert to digital?
A: All blenders and toasters will need to convert, though breadmakers and ceiling fans are optional.

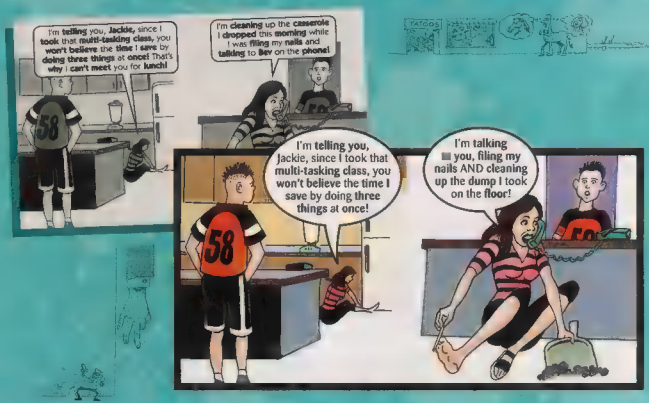


WRITER: JEFF KRUSE

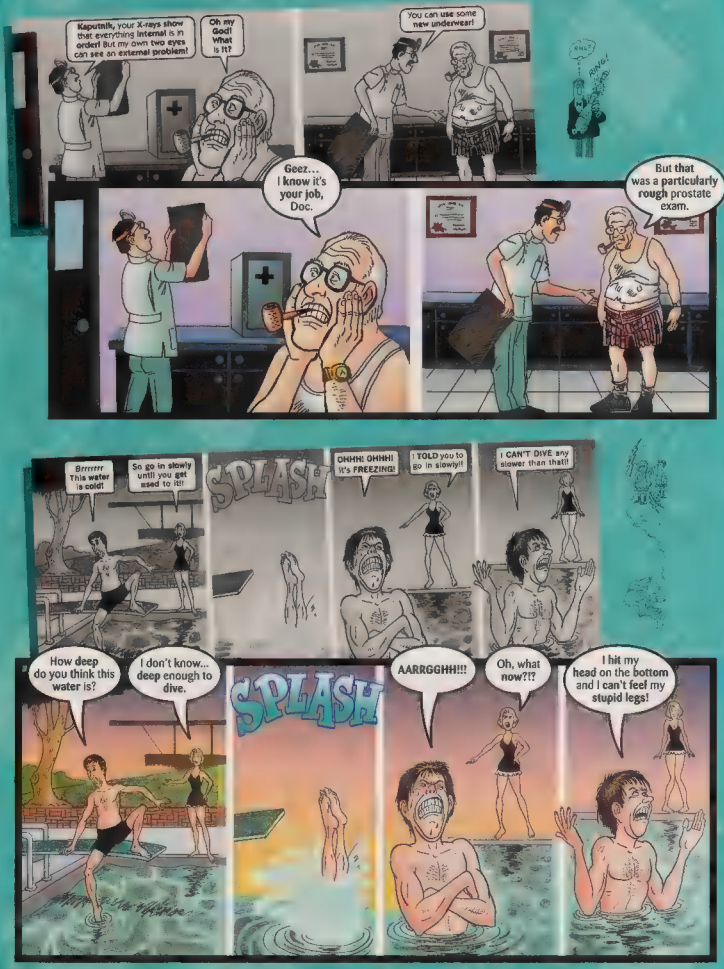
THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIGHTER SIDE

We tamper with classic Dave Berg strips, even though nobody asked us to — especially not Dave!

Things are a lot easier now that I've taught my kids the value of a dollar!
How did you do that?
I borrowed money from them!
You'd think my kids would be happier to see me.
Yeah?
But they're still pissed that I lost them in last month's game.


I'm telling you, Jackie, since I took that multi-tasking class, you won't believe the time I save by doing three things at once! That's why I can't meet you for lunch!
I'm cleaning up the casserole I dropped this morning while I was filing my nails and talking to Bev on the phone!
I'm telling you, Jackie, since I took that multi-tasking class, you won't believe the time I save by doing three things at once!
I'm talking to you, filing my nails AND cleaning up the dump I took on the floor!

Harold, you get out of that boat this instant!
Why, Mom?
Can't you see the red flag on the Yacht Club mast?! That's the "Small Craft Warning"!! Get out of that boat before you're swamped . . . or overturn . . . Or—
Mildred, dear, I know you tend to be over-protective, but don't you think you're carrying it a bit too far?!
Harold, what are you doing?
I'm piloting this boat! I'll be back in half an hour!
Okay, honey – just be careful! Mommy loves you very much!
I told you not to drink while you were pregnant with him…
LAST ONE IN THE POOL IS A ROTTEN EGG!!!
SPLASH
HA! HA! SIDNEY IS A ROTTEN EGG!
No, I'm not!
I never went IN the pool!
Last one in the pool is a rotten egg!!!
HA HA! SIDNEY IS A ROTTEN EGG!
No, I'm not!
I was in the pool earlier – to take a leak!


Kaputnik, your X-rays show that everything internal is in order! But my own two eyes can see an external problem!
Oh my God! What is it?
You can use some new underwear!
RING?
RING!
Geez... I know it's your job, Doc.
But that was a particularly rough prostate exam.
Brrrrrrr This water is cold!
So go in slowly until you get used to it!
SPLASH
OHHH! OHHH! It's FREEZING!
I TOLD you to go in slowly!
I CAN'T DIVE any slower than that!
How deep do you think this water is?
I don't know... deep enough to dive.
SPLASH
AARRGGHH!!!
Oh, what now?!?
I hit my head on the bottom and I can't feel my stupid legs!

From JP CitiChaseWaCapitalMu Bank, Inc.
To: The American People

As you know, the government recently advanced us $350 billion in bailout money. Here at JP CitiChaseWaCapitalMu Bank, Inc. we understand that you, the taxpayer, want to know where your hard-earned tax money is going. And, in return, we ask you to understand that it is in *our* interest to withhold this information.

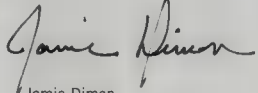
You may wonder: Is the money being spent on corporate bonuses? Lavish junkets? Or to acquire other banks? We could answer these questions, but that would take time away from our current "crisis mission" of working out corporate bonuses, planning lavish junkets and acquiring more banks.

Then there's the mistaken notion that there is no process in place to make sure that we use the bailout money wisely. Rest assured that we have assembled a team of banking experts, with years of experience in sub-prime loans, derivatives and other highly leveraged financial instruments, to work tirelessly to find ways to spend the bailout money. Who better to steer us out of this catastrophic mess than the very same financial wizards that got us into it?

So where is the money? Without being too specific, let us just unequivocally state: Some of the money is here, some of it is there, and we'll be moving it around in the future to give the impression that we're doing something that benefits you.

Finally, we applaud the Federal Government for taking quick action with no strings attached and not treating us like those blue collar losers in Detroit.

God bless America.



Jamie Dimon
Chairman

PS: Good news! While you were reading this important message, the name of the bank has changed again! We're now JP CitiChaseWaCapitalMu Bank *of America*, Inc.

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

MAD ABOUT STAR WARS
Thirty Years of Classic Parodies
WRITTEN BY JONATHAN BRESLIN
FOREWORD BY GEORGE LUCAS
SPY vs SPY 2
THE JOKE AND DAGGER FILES
BY DAVID SHAYNE
FOREWORD BY J.J. ABRAMS
MAD
15 STUPIDLY BIG PRINTS
MAGAZINE POSTER BOOK
DO YOUR PART TO HELP THE ECONOMY —
Give us your money!
BUY THIS STUFF TODAY!
VINTAGE MAD
2009 Calendar
These three books available exclusively at Barnes & Noble
MAD ABOUT THE MOVIES
THE MAD WAR ON BUSH
I'M WITH STUPID
ABSOLUTELY MAD

THE STRIP CLUB

the MACHINE that travels through time
Oh crud, I left my keys in tomorrow's pants.
Excuse me, I have to powder my nose.
Every moment you're gone will feel like an eternity.
I should just use the machine that travels through time so I don't have to wait for her to get back.
I couldn't wait for you to get back so I came to the future.
Could we get another menu?
Um, this is kind of weird. I mean... there's two of you: past you and present you.
Oh yeah. We can fix that. We'll go a tiny bit into the future so that there are two of you, too.
Oh, wait, that didn't work. Now there's two of you, but four of us...
Okay, we're smart. We can fix this.
etc... etc... etc...
Um, could we get separate checks?

JOEY SAYERS

SCOTT NICKEL

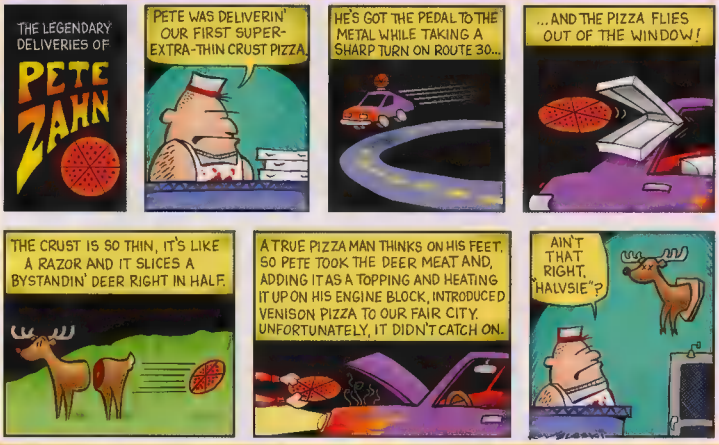
your mama's website is so ugly...

NOBODY LIKES YOU
WE CAN'T ALL BE POPULAR
PEOPLE SAY YOU'RE ugly
WE CAN'T ALL BE MODELS
YOUR DANCING STYLE IS A joke
I AGREE, ACTUALLY
YOUR NOSE IS FUNNY-LOOKING
I INHERITED IT FROM MY GRANDPA
NOBODY READS YOUR BLOG
HEY!

TONY MURPHY

The Long and Short of It...
Café du Ciel
I KNOW YOUR SIGN OUT THERE SAYS "SEEING EYE DOGS ONLY," BUT DO YOU ALLOW DOGS THAT ARE SPECIALLY TRAINED TO ATTACK WHEN THEY HEAR THE WORD "NO"?

DAN LONG


THE LEGENDARY DELIVERIES OF
PETE ZAHN
PETE WAS DELIVERIN' OUR FIRST SUPER-EXTRA-THIN CRUST PIZZA.
HE'S GOT THE PEDAL TO THE METAL WHILE TAKING A SHARP TURN ON ROUTE 30...
...AND THE PIZZA FLIES OUT OF THE WINDOW!
THE CRUST IS SO THIN, IT'S LIKE A RAZOR AND IT SLICES A BYSTANDIN' DEER RIGHT IN HALF.
A TRUE PIZZA MAN THINKS ON HIS FEET. SO PETE TOOK THE DEER MEAT AND, ADDING IT AS A TOPPING AND HEATING IT UP ON HIS ENGINE BLOCK, INTRODUCED VENISON PIZZA TO OUR FAIR CITY. UNFORTUNATELY, IT DIDN'T CATCH ON.
AIN'T THAT RIGHT, "HALVSIE"?

JOHN KOVALESKI

THE ROOMMATES: JOHN, JOE AND JERRY
HEY, WHAT'CHA WATCHIN'?
JEOPARDY.
OOH! CAN I PLAY?!
JOHN, I HARDLY THINK YOU'LL LIKE IT. IT'S VERY TOUGH.
PLUS... JERRY AND I ARE BOTH HIGHLY EDUCATED. I CAN'T SEE YOU GETTING ANY ANSWERS WE COULDN'T GET FIRST.
I'LL TAKE 'TURDS' FOR 200, ALEX.
YES!
OH, C'MON!

TODD CLARK

One Lovely Easter Morning
THE EASTER BUNNY ISN'T REAL, BRIAN. JUST WAIT, MOM AND DAD ARE THE ONES WHO WILL PUT OUT OUR EASTER BASKETS.
NO WAY! THE BUNNY IS GONNA COME.
WAIT, WHAT'S THAT?
LOOK! SEE IT?! SEE IT?!
HELLO MR. AND MRS. GOODWIN. I'VE BROUGHT EASTER BASKETS FOR YOUR CHILDREN.
THANK YOU, EASTER BUNNY.
HOW ARE ELISE AND BRIAN DOING, ANYWAY?
OH, THEY'RE FINE. BUT THEY'RE STILL SO YOUNG.
ELISE IS TEN, BRIAN IS NINE.
SO, YOU HAVEN'T TOLD THEM YET?
WELL... UMM... NO.
SANTA ASKED US THE SAME THING!
LISTEN, IT'S GOOD TO STAY YOUNG AND IDEALISTIC, BUT AT SOME POINT THEY NEED TO KNOW THE MYTHS THEY GREW UP WITH FOR WHAT THEY ARE.
WE KNOW, BUT-
THEY NEED TO KNOW THAT BABIES DON'T COME FROM STORKS, BUT FROM INTERCOURSE. AND BRIAN'S BELIEF THAT ONLY "OTHER" PEOPLE GET S.T.D.S IS TOTALLY FALSE.
YEAH, I WISH MY PARENTS HAD TOLD ME THAT. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT ITCHES.
YOU NEED TO TELL THEM THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T ACTUALLY REPRESENT THE PEOPLE, BUT INSTEAD IS A SLAVE TO SELF-INTEREST GROUPS.
CAN'T WE LET THEM BELIEVE FOR A WHILE LONGER THAT INSURANCE AND HOUSING ARE AFFORDABLE?
YES. MAYBE NEXT YEAR. ELISE WILL BE STARTING MIDDLE SCHOOL THEN.
WELL, IF SHE'S ALREADY A CRACK ADDICT THROWING ORGIES BY THEN, DON'T COME CRYING TO ME.
THEY GROW UP SO QUICKLY.
THERE, THERE.
PARENTS ARE SO NAIVE. I'VE KNOWN WE'RE BEING OPPRESSED BY AN EVIL IMPERIALIST GOVERNMENT FOR YEARS.
DANG! I'D WONDERED WHAT THAT RASH WAS.
CHRISTOPHER BALDWIN

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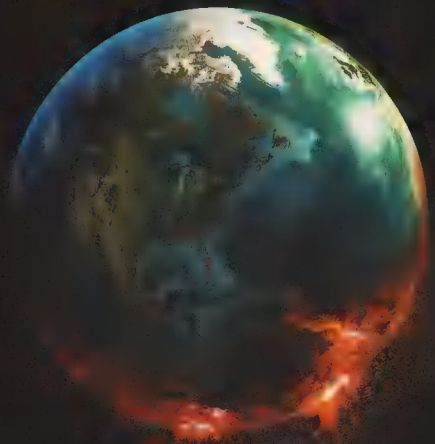
NICOLAS CAGE



KNOWING

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE NUMBERS RUN OUT?

SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

AN ESCAPE ARTISTS PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH MYSTERY CLOCK CINEMA AN ALEX PROYAS FILM NICOLAS CAGE "KNOWING" ROSE BYRNE CHANDLER CANTERBURY CASTING BY GREG APPS

PRODUCTION DESIGNER MARCO BELTRAMI EDITED BY TERRY RYAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RICHARD LEARDO STEVEN JONES-EVANS DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SIMON DUGGAN A.C.S. CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS AARON KAPLAN SEAN PERRONE

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEPHEN JONES TOPHER DOW NOOM GOLIGHTLY DAVID BLOOMFIELD PRODUCED BY TIM JASON BLUMENTHAL STEVE TISCH ALEX PROYAS

STORY BY RYNE PEARSON AND JULIET SNOWDEN & STILES WHITE AND STUART HAZELDINE SCREENPLAY BY ALEX PROYAS STORY BY RYNE PEARSON DIRECTED BY

ESCAPE

COMING SOON TO THEATERS

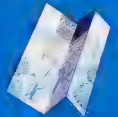
KNOWING-THEMOVIE.COM

A "SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS" SNOWBOARDING CONVERSATION

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

MAD FOLD-IN

What can you do when some flake poses a moronic query to you? Sure, you can shoot them an icy glance, or give them the cold shoulder — but other than that, you really just have to weather their idiocy.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

IS THAT YOUR **NEW SNOWBOARD?**

NO, IT'S MY **MOM'S** OLD **IRONING BOARD!**

DO YOU **STAND UP** ON THE **BOARD?**

NO, I **LIE PRONE** ON IT!

DO YOU HAVE A **WAY** TO **STOP?**

YES, I'LL **TURN** AND GO **UPHILL!**

GOOD! THEN YOU WON'T HIT THE...

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

A

B

A "SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS" SNOWBOARDING CONVERSATION

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

NEW

STONE

WALL!

A B

STAR TREK
IN THEATERS 05.08.09
WE SCOURED
THE UNIVERSE
TO FIND ONE.
MEET THE GALAXY'S
BIGGEST TREKKIE
ESURANCE.COM/STARTREK
LOCK ONTO THESE COORDINATES >
FOR MORE CHANCES TO WIN
EXCLUSIVELY FROM
esurance
Online Auto Insurance

MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION™

So I was thumbing through my usual issue of MAD magazine I pick up at my local bookstore, when my dad came into my room. He then looked at the front and asked to see it. So I gave it to him and he started laughing his butt off. He then went and got my very small stack of previous issues. He is so curious to read them. On the other hand, my mom thinks they are "insensitive and boring." We don't understand what she means. So, my wish for the MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION™ is for you to send a bunch of magazines for my dad to become enlightened and to teach my mom the amazing ways of your brilliant humor!

Robert Landis, Houston, TX

One If By Landis — We wish we could help you, but, sadly, MAD has never successfully brought a family together, we've only driven them apart. Your best bet is for you and your dad ■ start fresh with a new mom who actually appreciates MAD. A few hours on eHarmony and you'll be well on your way to a funnier, MAD-loving family. Chase that dream! —Ed.

ALFRED E. NEUMAN LOOK-A-LIKE

Here is ■ photo of the winner in the Alfred E. Neuman look-a-like contest, my son, Griffin Golden. Please send the cash directly to me and I will safely deposit it in an interest-bearing account until he turns 18. Then I will buy myself a nice gift!

Rob Golden, Riverside, CT

Com on the Rob — Yes, Griffin is the winner — and judging from your letter, he is the first "winner" ■ your family's history! —Ed.

THE ADVICE HAS IT

I was wondering what is MAD's "Meaning of Life," because right now my life has no meaning and I was wondering if you could provide some suggestions.

Peter Abraham, Appleton, WI

In the Pete of the Night — We're glad you asked this. For years, we wondered the same thing and we sought the advice of our wise old grandfather. His answer stayed with us till this very day: he simply said the meaning of life is "all about the coleslaw." ■ hindsight, grandfather was a bit bonkers, but we hope his advice has helped you out. —Ed.

IT'S A REAL SLAM DRUNK

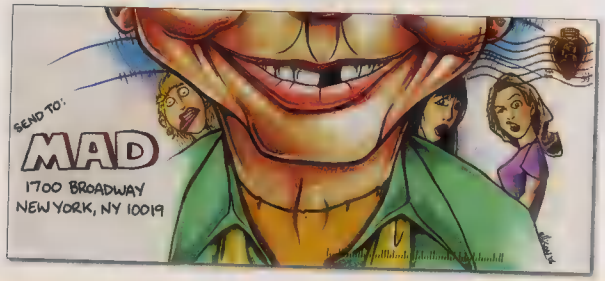
You know when you come home after a long night of drinking and you do something really dumb and typical like eat a burrito that's been in the refrigerator for two weeks or call an ex-girlfriend? Well, last night after ■ night on the town, I came home and subscribed to your stupid magazine. I talked to my friend the next day and he told me that when he got home he stuck his tongue in ■ fan. Even after hearing that, I still thought ■ was more idiotic to have subscribed to your magazine.

James Smith Jr., New York, NY

Fun and James — We know exactly what you mean! After all, we decided to open your letter, read it and print it. That electric fan is looking pretty good right now! —Ed.

ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

This month's Envelope of the Month was sent in by Luke Ellison of Toledo, OH. That's a mighty fine nose divot!



DRAGON BALL Z REMASTERED

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"Dragon Ball GT is a fun ride" – animenewsnetwork.com

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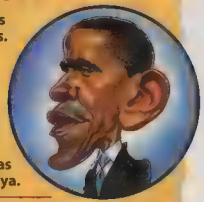
find out more at www.dragonballz.com

FUNIMATION

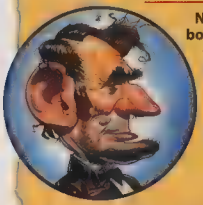
THE FUNDALINI PAGES

EERIE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND BARACK OBAMA



The modern Republican Party has no use for either one's core values.

Lincoln's Secretary of State bought Alaska, which many considered foolish. Obama's opponent foolishly bought *into* an Alaskan.



Neither was born in Kenya.

Both chose a white man as a running mate. Otherwise, they probably wouldn't have won.

Lincoln said "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Obama's mother-in-law will live in the White House, so stay tuned on that one.

Both were from Illinois, yet neither ever saw the Cubs win the World Series.

THE FAST 5

MAIN DUTIES OF OBAMA'S NEW CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

1. Test all of the spam penis enlargement products, then go after the ones that clearly don't work
2. Come up with an emoticon for detached ennui
3. Correct the spelling and grammar in sites like Netflix and Ain't It Cool News
4. Intervene in flame wars without prior approval of Congress
5. Change eBay seller ratings at the pleasure of the President

STORIES REPORTED BY TMZ THAT WERE LATER RETRACTED

- The Olsen twins aren't related
- Much to Disney's embarrassment, "Hakuna Matata" translates to "Up yours!" in Swahili
- *Jurassic Park* used real dinosaurs, though the sequels used special effects
- Al Pacino turned down the title role in *Malcolm X*, which eventually went to Denzel Washington
- Cookie Monster was originally voiced by porn legend Ron Jeremy

HOW GEORGE W. BUSH WILL BE PERCEIVED BY VARIOUS AMERICANS

Sports fans will want to immortalize Bush in Cooperstown for having abandoned his life's dream of becoming baseball commissioner in order to become President — and thus screwing up the country instead of America's pastime.

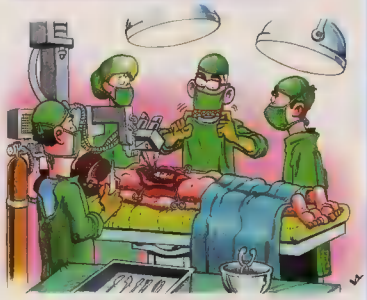
American workers forced to hold down five jobs just to make ends meet will consider Bush another Jefferson — who also did nothing about slavery.

Historians will consider Bush to truly be "a uniter, not a divider," because they'll no longer have those knock-down, drag-out fights over who was the worst U.S. President ever.

Legal experts will give him high marks for his ethics, for *giving away* high-level cabinet positions to incompetents, instead of *selling* them.

Virtually all Americans will consider him greater than Lincoln — at ducking.

THE YUNGBLUTH AND THE RESTLESS



"It was already a complex procedure... and now there's *this* wrinkle!"

MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Jenkins gladly gives up his seat on the bus to an elderly passenger.

Melvin always sits across two seats because he likes the way the plastic divider feels between his cheeks.

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S "MINI-MYSTERY"

Dr. Higginsby discovered that Arthur Flintlock's pancreas had a false bottom. A closer inspection revealed the purloined pearls!

NEXT MONTH: "The Curious Casserole"!

THE SUBLIME 7

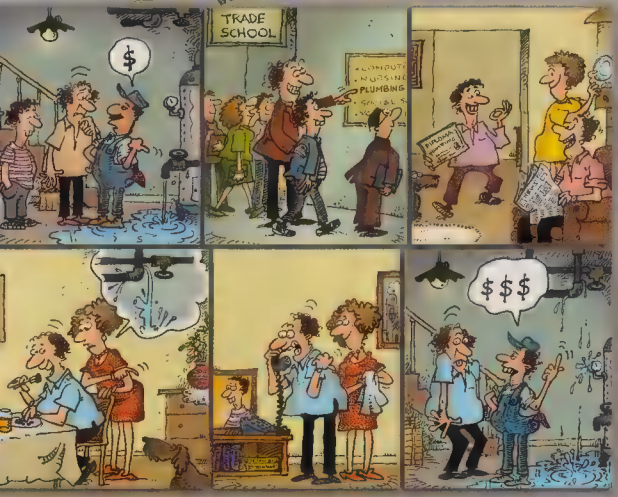
HILLARY CLINTON'S PRIORITIES AS SECRETARY OF STATE

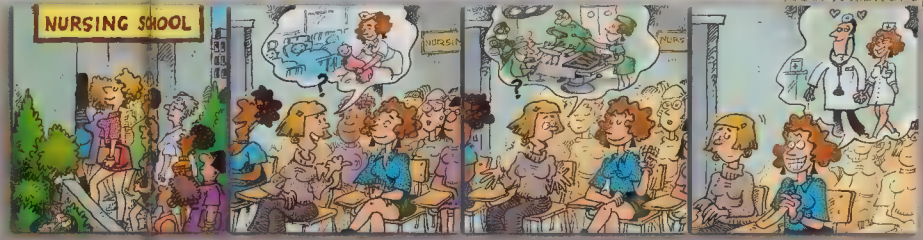
1. ■ really convincing while pretending that peace is possible in the Middle East
2. Determine once and for all how the hell "Qatar" ■ supposed ■ be pronounced
3. See that Bill is safely occupied during any trips to Bangkok or Amsterdam
4. Team up with Bono on 1) African famine relief and 2) experimental folk/blues album
5. Propose sweeping changes in the way banks give sub-prime mortgages. Yeah, it's the area of the Treasury Department, but so what? She's Hillary Freakin' Clinton!
6. Fly to Stockholm and have some real Swedish meatballs, not the stuff they serve in the Senate cafeteria
7. Get to work on 200 separate "Apology for the last eight years" speeches

MOORE'S CODE DEPT.
They've screwed up the world! They've screwed up their lives! And now, they're ready to screw up 20 years' worth ■ critical goodwill and fond memories of the beloved graphic novel that started ■ all! The book's still great! But who'd watch the...
BOTCHMEN
In films like Psycho and Pulp Fiction, the moviemakers shocked audiences out of their shoes by killing off ■ character they cared about halfway through the movie! In this one, we shake up the formula! We bore the audience, by immediately killing off a character they've never seen, and have absolutely no feelings about!
I'm Ozcargrouchius, the Smartest Man in the World™! For instance, I can tell you that as ■ body in freefall, the Funnyman is traveling downward at ■ speed of 32.174 ft/s! Or if you prefer the metric system, his nominal rate of acceleration is 9.80665 m/s! By either measurement, though, the hot dog vendor right downstairs is hosed!
The identity of Funnyman's murderer is supposed to be this movie's deep, dark mystery! But if you're paying incredibly close attention, you may have noticed that I'm not ■ girl. I'm not blue. I'm not the masked nutcase and I'm not the dead guy! Do the math!
Oof! Yowch! Ack! The broker who sold me this apartment emphasized the spectacular skyline view. Screw that! Starting tomorrow, it's one-story ranch houses for me! That's assuming I'm lucky enough to land on something soft! Mine has been a life of rape, war, mutilation, abandonment, and remorseless, nihilistic cruelty! The sad part is, it all ended much too soon! On my way down, if I'm lucky, I may get one last chance to punch ■ pigeon in the nuts!
I've got determination! I've got ruthless will! The only thing I don't have? Eyeholes! Where the hell am I? As you can see, my mask is an endless variety of flowing stains. I have the same problem with my underpants!
Behind my back, people whisper that I'm a sociopathic, paranoid nut! But they'd never dare say those things directly to my blot! I admit I've got issues, though. I'm antisocial. I keep a secret journal. I trust no one, and I'm permanently pissed off at everybody! If I was growing boobies, I'd be a 13-year-old girl!
Criminals are a cowardly, superstitious lot. I must be dark... terrible...a creature of the night...an OWL! Hey, what do you want from me? "Bat" was already taken! I don't want to get my owl-ass sued off!
I've really embraced the whole "owl" gimmick, with the night-vision goggles, the wing-like cape, and the sonic screech weapon! If I could just lay eggs, eat raw mice and rotate my head backwards, I'd be the total package!
Unlike the emotionally repressed Nerd-Owl, my suit leaves nothing to the imagination! Which is good, because I haven't got an imagination! Everything I do is ■ repeat! I took over my stage mom's retired super-identity, and I stole another character's sloppy blue seconds! Of course, being the second Silk Speculum has its advantages! Like my cushy government job taking care of my nuclear-powered boyfriend! It's a good gig! He's got a great body, and he tastes like BooBerry cereal!
It's not often you see a buff, naked, blue bald man, except for Gay Pride parades! And, occasionally, in unlicensed Smurf porn! When I became Dr. Meatdanglin', I turned into the single most powerful entity in the free world! So suck it, Oprah! I can destroy armies! I can transport matter through space and time! I can create and manipulate energy! Apparently the only thing I can't do is zap myself a pair of tighty whities!
Because of my superpowers, time moves differently for me. I experience the past and future, all at once! I've always wondered what it would be like to feel time come to ■ complete and total stop. So far, I haven't found out. But I came very, very close, while waiting for a mattress delivery!
I'm Alan "Smithee" Moore, the award-winning writer of the original graphic novel! I'm known for my sense of artistic integrity! And Hollywood has always honored that integrity when adapting my other celebrated comic books to the big screen. Such as From Hell, V for Vendetta, The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen...and... and now this movie...dear God. I hope the Funnyman lands on me!
THE END IS NIGH
Smurfs' ABS
WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN
ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

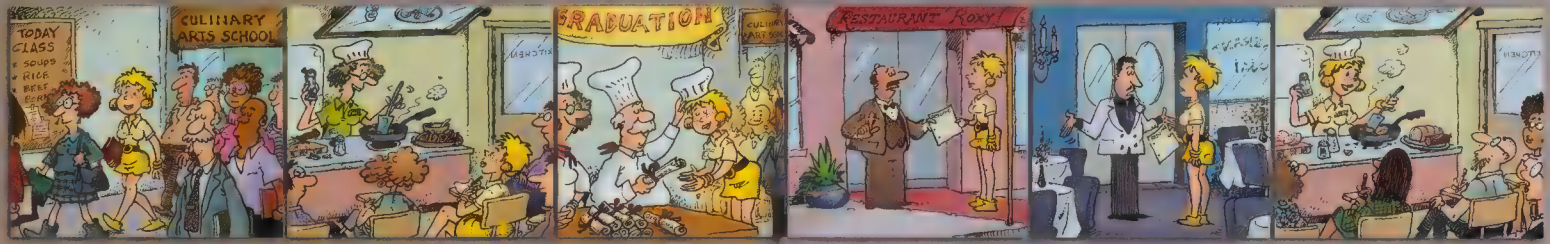
SERGIO ARAGONES presents

A MAD LOOK AT TRADE SCHOOLS





WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES COLORIST: TOM LUTH

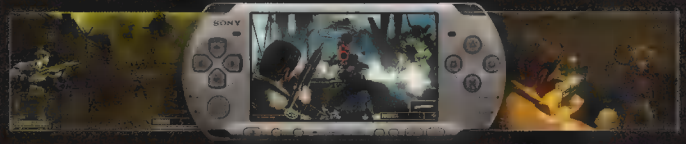


HUMANITY'S HOPE BEGINS WITH ONE MAN'S RETRIBUTION

RESISTANCE
RETRIBUTION

www.myresistance.net

M ATURE 17+ RP RATING PENDING — May contain content inappropriate for children. Visit www.esrb.org for rating information.

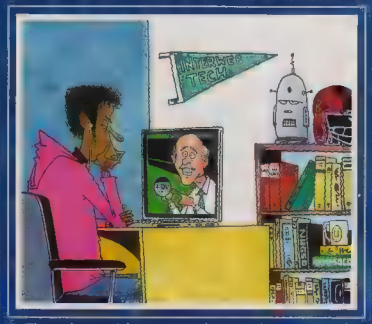


The Chimera have taken Europe. And for James Grayson, the battle just got personal. The fight for mankind continues in the newest Resistance chapter, and it's only on the PSP® system. This action-shooter features unique 8-player multiplayer and an advanced third-person targeting system. Connect your PSP to your PS3™ with Resistance 2™ and unlock additional features to help give humanity a shred of hope. The Resistance is now everywhere.

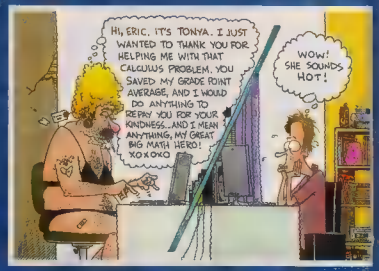
EVERYWHERE JUST GOT BETTER™

The Decided Disadvantages of an Online Education

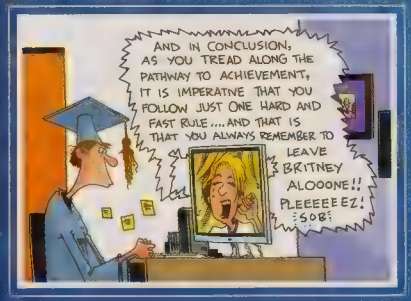
With the costs of a college education skyrocketing, more and more knowledge-thirsty Americans are turning to the internet in pursuit of a degree. While learning at your own pace on your own computer may seem like a good thing, there are a few downsides. So, before you settle on some cyber school that popped up while you were surfing for porn, check out this required reading list chronicling...



The only guest lecturer you've ever been exposed to is that "Video Professor" guy from infomercials


HI, ERIC. IT'S TONYA. I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME WITH THAT CALCULUS PROBLEM. YOU SAVED MY GRADE POINT AVERAGE, AND I WOULD DO ANYTHING TO REPAY YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS...AND I MEAN ANYTHING, MY GREAT BIG MATH HERO! XOXOXO
WOW! SHE SOUNDS HOT!

You date classmates at your own peril

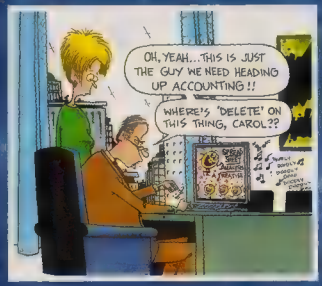

AND IN CONCLUSION, AS YOU TREAD ALONG THE PATHWAY TO ACHIEVEMENT, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU FOLLOW JUST ONE HARD AND FAST RULE....AND THAT IS THAT YOU ALWAYS REMEMBER TO LEAVE BRITNEY ALOOONE!! PLEEEEEEZ! :SOB:

Come graduation time, your commencement speaker is whichever YouTube viral video celebutard happens to have the most views at the moment

After years of performing flawless surgery on 3-D computer models, you discover early in your residency that you can't stand the sight of blood

You get the same stupid question every job interview

To hear your alma mater you have to shell out 99 cents on iTunes



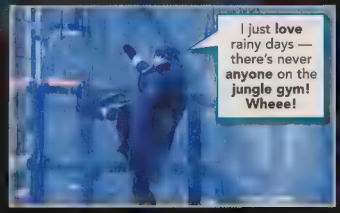
At some point you discover that a masters thesis full of little smiley emoticons doesn't open up any doors in the real world

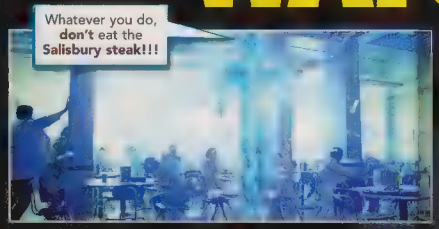
Your framed diploma is replete with cheesy web ads

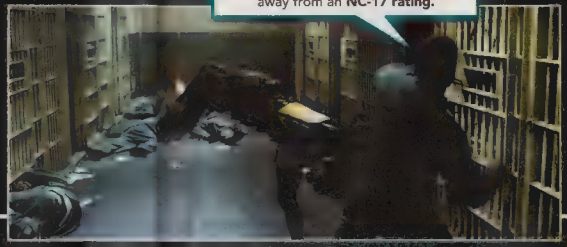
WRITER AND ARTIST: JOHN CALDWELL

MAD's UNHEROIC WATCHMEN OUTTAKES

GAAAAH! This **walk-in microwave** hurts like hell — but it's the **only** way to make sure my **Hot Pocket** gets cooked all the way through!






Geez, a **hot chick** in spandex **beating the hell** out of a bunch of guys in a **prison**...this is one **oiled midget** away from an **NC-17 rating.**

THE STORY OF DEATHBED DONKEY ...AND THE RAGE OF SORROW

From the dawn of man there have been countless tales of wonder and awe passed from generation to generation, but none of the impact, grandeur and raw primal power of...

There once was a donkey with powerful emotions which were mysteriously linked to those who were at the end of their lives.

HE'S GOING FAST.

WHERE(SOB) DID THIS (SOB) ANIMAL COME FROM?

DON'T KNOW (SNIFF SOB SNIFF), BUT IT SEEMS PRETTY UPSET ABOUT DAD.

HE'S... HE'S GONE. I'M SORRY.

But whenever someone died, the donkey would go into what would come to be known as a "rage of sorrow."

As if he blamed himself for the death...

HEY! CALM DOWN! GREG, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HIM!

I THINK IT'S GOT SOME DEATH AND ANGER ISSUES TO WORK OUT. THAT'S ONE CRAZY SENSITIVE DONKEY!

The word spread: there was a donkey that truly cared if people lived or died. And he went to every funeral he could. Even the unpopular ones.

YOU COULDN'T REALLY SAY JIM WAS A PEOPLE PERSON.

THERE, THERE... IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

YOU MIGHT WANT THIS IN CASE THE DONKEY LOSES IT AGAIN.

People began to believe that the mysterious donkey knew things no one else did.

BEAT IT, BEAST! THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME! I JUST HAVE A LITTLE COLD (SNIFF). QUIT FOLLOWING ME!

HE'S NOT DEAD, SO THERE'S NO REASON TO START KICKING THE PLACE APART. OKAY? SEE, HE'S ALIVE...

But the deathbed donkey could not be fooled.

HE'S OUTTA CONTROL!

HELP ME GRAB HIM!

Y!!!!

Y!!!!

QUIET HOSPITAL ZONE

NO DONKEYS ALLOWED

Soon the Donkey seemed to be turning up everywhere.

IS MY HUSBAND GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT? IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO?

ER, PUT IT THIS WAY: YOU MIGHT WANT TO PUT AWAY YOUR GOOD CHINA.

Though some people welcomed the donkey's genuine sympathy, many more did not.

OH NO! IT'S THAT INSANE DONKEY AGAIN!

PUT THE BODY BACK IN THE HEARSE!

HURRY! WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!

Wherever the terminal and infirm were facing their last hours, Deathbed Donkey would find them, weep uncontrollably...and then kick the place to pieces.

HELP! HELP!

Y!!!!

Y!!!!

GOD, HE ATE MY MEDS!

SHADY VALLEY REST HOME

And so he travels across this great land chasing ambulances, visiting hospitals and saying to us all in his own special way, "I Love You. Please don't die! I really mean it!"

WRITER: BRIAN MCCONNACHIE

ARTIST: RICK GEARY

At every press conference, in every sport, we hear the same tripe over and over. Players and coaches yak mindlessly about "focusing," "executing," "bringing their 'A' game," and (GAK!) "giving 110%." Don't these brain-dead millionaires have anything more to say? Well actually, they do! Check out these...

UNABRIDGED SPORTS CLICHÉS

I'M TAKING IT ONE GAME AT A TIME...
BECAUSE IF I THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH OF THIS PITIFUL SEASON IS LEFT, I'LL WANT TO GOUGE OUT MY EYES WITH A LOBSTER FORK!
I TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LOSS...
BECAUSE I FIGURE, WHAT THE HELL -- YOU DOUCHE-BAGS IN THE PRESS ARE GOING TO CRUCIFY ME ANYWAY!
I WOULD NEVER USE A BANNED SUBSTANCE...
WITHOUT FIRST BEING 100% SURE THAT I COULD ACE THE PISS-TEST!
EVEN THOUGH WE PLAY THE SAME POSITION, WE'RE ROOTING FOR EACH OTHER...
TO SUFFER A CAREER-ENDING INJURY!
IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MONEY...
IT'S ABOUT THE DIAMOND BRACELETS, GOLD-PLATED HUMMERS AND BRAZILIAN BIKINI MODELS I CAN GET WITH THE MONEY!
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET OFF THE DISABLED LIST...
ALTHOUGH GETTING PAID MILLIONS TO SIT ON MY DUMPER AND DRINK GATORADE HASN'T BEEN TOO BAD!
I LOVE THIS CITY SO MUCH...
THAT I RENT IN THE SUBURBS AND SPEND THE OFF-SEASON ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE COUNTRY!
I WANT TO WIN A CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE FANS...
SO THE JERKS WILL FINALLY QUIT BITCHING ABOUT ME ON SPORTS-TALK RADIO!
THIS TEAM IS MULTI-FACETED...
WE'VE GOT A FULL RANGE OF WHINERS, UNDERACHIEVERS AND DANGEROUSLY UNSTABLE FELONS!
WITHOUT THE FANS, I'D BE NOTHING...
JUST LIKE THEM!
LONG ROAD TRIPS ARE ALWAYS TOUGH...
SINCE I CAN BARELY KEEP STRAIGHT WHICH BRAINLESS GROUPIE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE CHEATING ON MY WIFE WITH!

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT

ARTIST: PAUL COKER

WRITER AND ARTIST: PETER KUPER

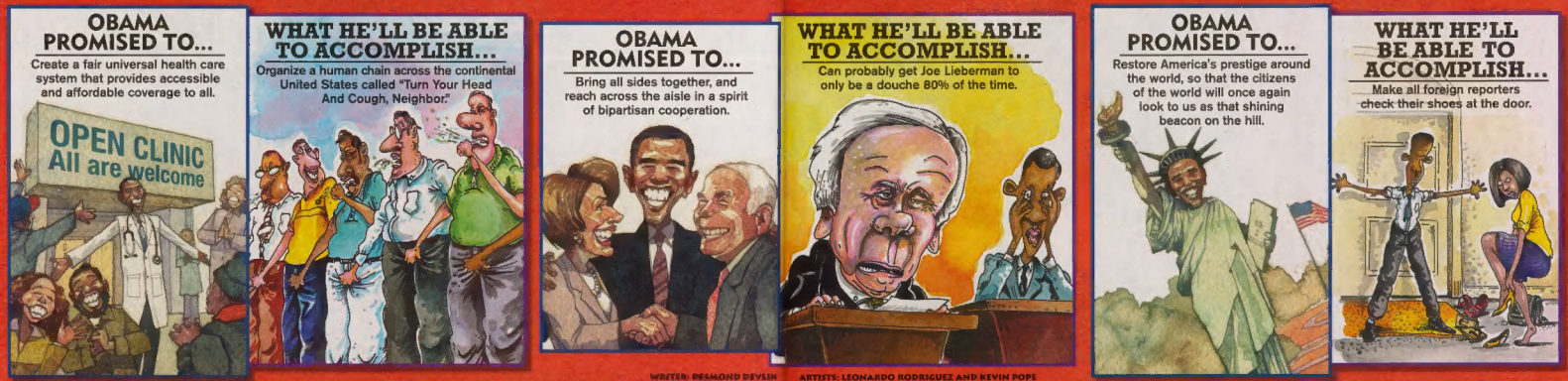
GOING BARACK ON HIS WORD DEPT.

PRESIDENT OBAMA

THE PROMISE vs. THE REALITY

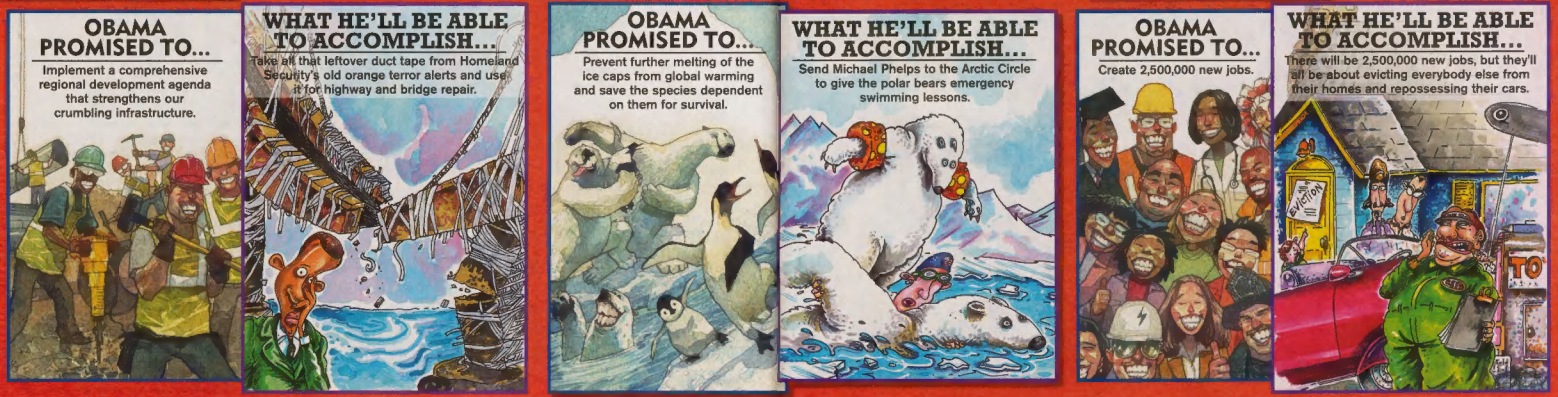
Barack Obama made history in last year's election. And now he's poised to make more history, with a sweeping platform of change. Or is he? Because if there's one thing that our new leaders find out REAL fast, it's that optimism is a non-renewable energy source. And so, it may not be long before our great nation's eternal, unspoken promise unfolds before our eyes: that every child, no matter what their race, can one day grow up to be a disrespected, hobbled failure of a President. Quickly! Before the honeymoon screeches to a halt, let's take one last nostalgic look back at Obama's ambitious plans for a shiny new America as we assess...

OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Champion the right of equal pay for equal work and to protect women from discriminatory economic injustice.
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
As the dollar continues to tank, will allow roadhouse strippers to be paid in Euros.


OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Create a fair universal health care system that provides accessible and affordable coverage to all.
OPEN CLINIC
All are welcome
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
Organize a human chain across the continental United States called "Turn Your Head And Cough, Neighbor."
OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Bring all sides together, and reach across the aisle in a spirit of bipartisan cooperation.
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
Can probably get Joe Lieberman to only be a douche 80% of the time.
OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Restore America's prestige around the world, so that the citizens of the world will once again look to us as that shining beacon on the hill.
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
Make all foreign reporters check their shoes at the door.

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTISTS: LEONARDO RODRIGUEZ AND KEVIN POPE


OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Implement a comprehensive regional development agenda that strengthens our crumbling infrastructure.
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
Take all that leftover duct tape from Homeland Security's old orange terror alerts and use it for highway and bridge repair.
OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Prevent further melting of the ice caps from global warming and save the species dependent on them for survival.
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
Send Michael Phelps to the Arctic Circle to give the polar bears emergency swimming lessons.
OBAMA PROMISED TO...
Create 2,500,000 new jobs.
WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...
There will be 2,500,000 new jobs, but they'll all be about evicting everybody else from their homes and repossessing their cars.
EVICTION